

Saturday June 20, 2020

Dear Members, Friends, and Guests of Desert Hills Lutheran Church,

Last night Grant (our youngest son) and Jessica (bride of our youngest son) came down for a three-day visit. They had not been down since our move, back in January. They came down to help us move on that weekend in January and we would never have finished without them. This time they came down to celebrate Father's Day. I am thrilled.

This morning we went out for breakfast here in Green Valley and then Julie and Jessica went to get groceries and Grant and I tackled two big guy projects: installing a screen door and replacing our mailbox. Well! Green Valley doesn't sell screen doors. So, we put the mailbox in. Might have been good to measure first. Two trips to Ace and it still is not installed completely. Isn't it often the case that a simple project manages to become prolonged?

What is on the agenda now? Perhaps a movie, a card game, and more catching up. We have no plans for Sunday except some excellent meals and the rumor of making donuts. After all these years of worship services it still is odd for me to be home on a weekend.

This weekend's sermon is about the balance of grace and truth. It has made an impact on me and I hope it will be helpful for you. In our dealing with ourselves and with others, we must share both truth but also the grace of forgiveness and mercy. The idea comes from John 1:14 "And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of a Father's only son, full of grace and truth."

Please continue to pray for our country. We are living in a time in which up is down and down is up and sideways. To decipher the truth can be so difficult and people's interpretations of beliefs and events seem so far apart. So, for now I'm giving thanks for a family visit and a weekend off.

Happy Father's Day to all you fathers and father figures.

Blessings,

Pastor Martin